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Infra sector growth touches 3-month high in September

New Delhi, Oct. 31: Infrastructure sector recorded a growth rate of 5 per cent in September — the highest in three months — on account of the healthy performance by cement, steel and refinery products.

The growth rate of the eight infrastructure sectors — coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertilisers, steel, cement and electricity — in September 2015 was 3.7 per cent.

The core sectors, which contribute 38 per cent to the total industrial production, had expanded by 3.2 per cent in August.

As per the official data released on Monday, the cumulative growth of the sector during April-September period of the

■ **THE GROWTH** rate of the core infrastructure sectors was 3.7% in September 2015

■ **THE CORE** sectors, which contribute 38 per cent to the total industrial production, had expanded by 3.2% in August

■ **GROWTH IN** fertiliser and electricity generation fell to 2% and 2.2% in September 2016, from 18.3 per cent and 11.4 per cent respectively in September 2015

■ **PRODUCTION OF** coal, crude oil and natural gas contracted by 5.8%, 4.1% and 5.5% during the month under review

fiscal was 4.6 per cent against 2.6 per cent in the same period last fiscal.

Production of cement, steel and refinery products grew by 5.5 per cent, 16.3 per cent and 9.3 per cent respectively in September this year.

Growth in fertiliser and electricity generation fell

to 2 per cent and 2.2 per cent in September 2016, from 18.3 per cent and 11.4 per cent respectively in September 2015.

Production of coal, crude oil and natural gas contracted by 5.8 per cent, 4.1 per cent and 5.5 per cent during the month under review.

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INFRA REBOUND

Infra sector performance on the uptick

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
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The increasing positive sentiment in the economy is seeing a revival in infrastructure sector performance. The sector recorded a growth of 5 per cent in September, the highest in three months, due to healthy performances from cement, steel and refinery products.

The five per cent growth rate is a significant improvement over the growth rate of the eight infrastructure sectors — coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertilizers, steel, cement and electricity — in September 2015, which was only 3.7 per cent.

The eight core sectors are also important indicators of recoveries in the economy because they contribute 38 per cent to the total industrial production of the country. The figures were higher than the last month, striking an expansion of merely 3.2 per cent in the eight core sectors.

